
MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Kathye Crumley, Susie Doss, Christina Duran, Albert Figueroa, Shirley Hanagan, Cindy Jensen, Gurumantra Khalsa, Taffi Romero, Melvin Ryman, Erin Snyder, Nancy Sturmer, John E. Williams

Members Excused: Kirk Beck, Sally Cernie

Members Unexcused: Dan Gressmann, Michael Pierpoint

Guests: Lorraine Hernandez Saint, Wivory Brandle, Richard Lum, Jolyn MacArthur, and Norm Gritton

Staff: Eva Yakutis, Manager/Hilda Gonzalez, Project Assistant, Development Department, Housing & Neighborhoods Division

1. **Call to Order/Introductions** – Gurumantra Khalsa called meeting to order at 6:41 pm followed by introductions. Cindy Jensen lead an icebreaker to get everyone acquainted.

2. **Recognition of outgoing members** – Wivory Brandel and Bernice and Robert Tank are recognized by the board for their service on the board and presented with a paperweight commemorating their RNP board membership.

3. **Approval of Minutes for July 2, 2007** - Motion to approve the minutes.
(Snyder/Figueroa/Carried)

4. **Visiting Councilmember's**

Andy Melendrez: Neighborhood Association updates:

- *University Neighborhood Association* was dark the month of August; however, the neighborhood worked with UCR to come up with a parking permit program in the neighborhood and on Watkins.
- *Sycamore Canyon Community Action Group* is dealing with students partying in the park late, so they are working on lighting/hours. Also, they had the Mayor and Councilmember Schiavone at their meeting re: DHL noise.
- *Dwight St. Neighborhood Association* is doing good work keeping up the alleys. Not much loitering any more.
- *Seventh St. Historic Neighborhood Association* working on prostitution issues, but their involvement has really diminished the issues on their street. They are also working on code issues. They have well-managed meetings.
- *Lincoln Park Group* has concerns about the gang injunction. They will be having BRE (developer of transit-oriented development across the tracks from Metrolink) at their next meeting to discuss a new apartment complex.
- *Howard Avenue Neighborhood* is a new group just formed. They are concerned with drag racing, homeless, and train noise.
- Met also with residents at *Fourth and Comer* that may be organizing.

Youth Opportunity Center opening at Cesar Chavez Community Center in October.

University Charette being discussed tomorrow at City Council.

Discussion of future office and restaurant spaces on University Avenue.

5. Concerns from Visiting Neighbors

No concerns from visiting neighbors

6. Orientation

All RNP members were given a new binder to carry all of their necessary items including a pencil pouch to store pens, pencils, and RNP name badge. Eva Yakutis gave a PowerPoint presentation as to the history, function, mission and goals of the RNP.

7. Housing and Neighborhoods Report

- a. **Appointment of Chamber of Commerce Representative**—Eva Yakutis brought before the board the name of Lorraine Hernandez Saint. She wishes to put her name before the board for consideration to fill one of the three Chamber of Commerce vacancies. Lorraine is the current Executive Director of the Greater Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Motion made to move her name forward to the Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee (Synder/ Duran/carried)
- b. **Area contact for residents wishing to organize**—Item discussed and put on next month's agenda.
- c. **October 1st elections**—Item discussed and a subcommittee formed in order to formulate how the elections will be executed. Members of sub-committee are Erin Synder, Taffi Romero, and Gurumantra Khalsa.
- d. **Appointment of Subcommittee for the Neighborhood Matching Grant**—Taffi Romero, Kathye Crumley, and Susie Doss have been selected.

8. Future Agenda Items

- a. Elections
- b. Emergency Preparation—Discussion, group thought it would be a good idea to move forward.

9. Other Items/Public Comment

Susie Doss: Requested a report as to the success of the August 7th National Night Out. Staff reported that they received a listing from the police department of eleven events that took place in neighborhoods city-wide. The board suggested perhaps RNP can collaborate with the police department. Lt. Bacon may be invited to a future RNP meeting to discuss.

Brenda Flowers (Mayor's Office and Mayor's Night Out): Informed the group of the City's new website: www.readyriverside.com. Ready Riverside highlights a four-step approach to emergency preparedness. Get a Kit, Make a Plan, Be Aware, Get Involved. September 26th Mayors Night Out Northside Neighborhood at Fremont Elementary School.

Erin Synder: Santa Ana River Cleanup Saturday, October 6th, from 8am-noon.

John E. Williams: MARB—AARP booth soliciting members manned by members of retired federal employees association.

Albert Figueroa: October 6th RPD 10th Annual Traffic Safety Fair

Eva Yakutis (Housing and Neighborhoods Division): Foreclosure Workshop at the Riverside Marriott on September 22nd.

Lorraine Hernandez Saint: September 26th Candidate runoff forum at RCC from 6-9pm

Jolyn MacArthur: September 19th League of Women Voters Debate.

10. Next Meeting October 2, 2007 – Mayor's Ceremonial Room

11. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned